

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

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FOR U.S. LOS DEL

FOLLOWING REPEAT CAPE TOWN 0295 ACTION SECSTATE INFO

PRETORIA DURBAN JOHANNESBURG 14 JUN

QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, SF

SUBJ: LAW OF THE SEA - FISHERIES

REF: CAPE TOWN 278, PRETORIA 2475

SUMMARY: SEA FISHERIES DELEGATE TO LOS CONFERENCE LOUIS BOTHA HAS REVIEWED U.S. PROPOSALS AND SAID THEY PRESENT NO DIFFICULTIES FROM HIS POINT OF VIEW. HE WAS CAREFUL TO MAKE CLEAR HOWEVER BASIC POLICY COVERING SAG POSITION ON FISHERIES QUESTIONS IS DETERMINED ELSEWHERE IN GOVT AND THAT HE WAS NOT FREE TO DISCUSS THAT POLICY. HE CITED SOUTH AFRICAN ADHERENCE TO ICCAT AGREEMENT AND MEMBERSHIP IN ICSEAF AS EVIDENCE OF PARALLEL VIEW WITH U.S. ON DEALING WITH PROBLEM OF HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES AND ON ENFORCEMENT MEASURES.

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1. BOTHA EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR BACKGROUND INFORMATION

PROVIDED AND TOLD ECON OFFICER ON JUNE 12 THAT HE AND OTHERS WHO WILL REPRESENT SAG AT CARACAS HAVE GOOD UNDERSTANDING OF U.S. VIEWS. IN THIS CONNECTION HE MENTIONED THEIR STUDY OF AMBASSADOR STEVENSON'S ARTICLE ON PREPARATIONS FOR THE LOS CONFERENCE WHICH APPEARED IN AMERICAN JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, JANUARY 1974.

2. OVERALL, BOTH A BELIEVED SAG DELEGATION WOULD NOT HAVE DIFFICULTY WITH U.S. PROPOSALS BUT EMPHASIZED THAT SEA FISHERIES DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIES (WHICH HE REPRESENTS), DID NOT DETERMINE BASIC POLICY AND THAT HE COULD NOT SPEAK ON OVERALL POLICY. (I.E. COULD NOT SAY WHETHER OVERALL POLICY MIGHT CAUSE CONFLICT WITH U.S. VIEWS ON ANY PARTICULAR QUESTION).

3. MORE SPECIFICALLY BOTH A INDICATED AGREEMENT WITH CONCEPTS OF BROAD COASTAL STATE MANAGEMENT AND PREFERENTIAL HARVESTING RIGHTS OVER COASTAL SPECIES, WITH APPLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS TO INSURE CONSERVATION AND FULL UTILIZATION OF FISHING STOCKS. HE

CONFIRMED SOUTH AFRICA NOT DIRECTLY CONCERNED WITH PROPOSALS ON ANADROMOUS SPECIES BUT THOUGHT THEM UNOBJECTIONABLE.

4. ON QUESTION OF HIGHLY MIGRATORY FISH, BOTH A EXPRESSED SPECIFIC AGREEMENT WITH U.S. POSITION AND NOTED SOUTH AFRICA IS ALREADY SIGNATORY TO ICCAT AGREEMENT (INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNA).

5. HE ALSO EXPRESSED CONCURRENCE WITH U.S. VIEW ON ENFORCEMENT, AND CITED SOUTH AFRICAN MEMBERSHIP IN ICSEAF (INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SOUTH EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES) WHICH HAS ALREADY AGREED TO IMPLEMENT SCHEME FOR INSPECTION BEGINNING IN JANUARY 1975.

DECON 12/14/74. GAMON UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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